UNITED
NATIONS

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Secretariat

ST/IC/91/31
13 May 1991

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of the staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management

Subject: UNITED NATIONS STAFF RELIEF COMMITTEE
FOR CYCLONE VICTIMS IN BANGLADESH

1. As reported in the media and by the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator, one of the worst cyclones in the history of the region devastated the coastal areas of Bangladesh on 30 April 1991. Over 125,000 people have been killed, crops, cattle and fishing boats have been destroyed and about 15 million people rendered homeless and destitute. Initial loss estimates have been put at over 1 billion dollars.

2. With the approval of the Secretary-General, United Nations staff, in the tradition of their humane concern to help, have formed the United Nations Staff Relief Committee for Cyclone Victims in Bangladesh for the purpose of conducting a fund-raising appeal. Mr. James Grant, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has agreed to be the Honorary Chairman of the Committee. The Committee is composed of over 20 staff members with Mr. Ronald Hewson, Ms. Cecelia Lotse, Mr. Rafiqur Rahman and Mr. Naeem Rathore as Joint Coordinators, Mr. Mati Pal as Treasurer and Mr. Mahbub Ahmad as Secretary. The Staff Council of the United Nations and the United Nations Development Programme have agreed to assist the Committee in conducting the appeal.

3. On Thursday, 16 May 1991, contributions will be collected at Headquarters by authorized staff members acting on behalf of the Committee.

4. If anyone wants to make a contribution earlier or later than 16 May 1991, a cheque payable to the United Nations Cyclone Relief Fund for Bangladesh should be forwarded to the Treasurer, Mr. Mati Pal (room DCII 0412, extension 33927) or the Secretary, Mr. Mahbub Ahmad (room S-850H, extension 36974).

5. All contributions will be handed over to UNICEF for providing direct assistance to the victims.

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